

Leonard Melvin Merritt

(1926-2007)

Researched and compiled by Faye V Bell (SLC) 2017

Leonard Melvin Merritt was born to Fred A Merritt and his wife Octavia on February 12, 1926 in Salida, Chaffee County, Colorado. He joined three brothers at that time Kelly O., George G. and Fred J., and another brother was born ca 1928 by the name of Robert L. The Merritt boys went off to WW II—Leonard in the “M” branch of the military and his brother Kelly in the U.S. Navy (?). Leonard enlisted 24 September 1943 and was released 2 April 1946; his social security number was issued in Arizona. He married Charlene Burgess, daughter of Lucien and Bethel Burgess and the couple had two daughters: Toni (Hicks) and Diana (Chestnut) and four grandchildren at his passing plus one great granddaughter. Several addresses are found for the Merritts: Tucson, Arizona, Worland, WY and Cottonwood, AZ plus time spent in Ten Sleep beginning 1984. His wife was the grand-daughter of Bert and Belle Burgess—widely known in the Big Horn Basin and served as Ten Sleep’s sheriff during the post WW II years. Leonard Died on 3 March 2007.

Sources are Ancestry.com and obituary of Charlene Merritt, his wife. fvb